

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (original) Ostomy device connection which is intended to connect a collection pouch (42) to a fixing device (30) which is intended to be adhesively-bonded to the skin of a user, the connection serving:

to transmit the weight of the collection pouch (42) to the fixing device (30),

to position the pouch (42) relative to the fixing device (30) so that a hole (36) of the fixing device is in communication with a hole (48) of the collection pouch, and to provide sealing between the collection pouch (42) and the fixing device (30),

the connection comprising a first connection portion (34) which is fixedly joined to the fixing device and a second connection portion (46) which is fixedly joined to the collection pouch,

one of the connection portions having an adhesive surface which is covered before use by a removable protective sheet and the other connection portion having an adhesion strip, so that the two connection portions (14, 34, 46) can co-operate with each other by means of adhesive-bonding in a plane which is practically perpendicular relative to the axes of the holes (14, 36, 48) of the pouch and the fixing device, and the transmission of the weight of the collection pouch (42) and the sealing between the fixing device (30) and collection pouch (42) are provided by means of adhesive-bonding, the collection pouch (42) and the fixing device comprising complementary fixing elements which are intended to limit the

possibilities for relative displacement of the pouch (42) and the fixing device (30) so that the two connection portions have practically only one possible relative position when they are adjacent, this position corresponding to the alignment of the holes (36, 48) of the fixing device (30) and the collection pouch (42),

characterised in that the protective sheet (72) of the adhesive layer has the feature of being able to be removed from the adhesive surface after the complementary fixing elements have been brought into co-operation.

2. (original) Connection according to claim 1, characterised in that the complementary fixing elements form an articulation device which delimits a pivot axis (40) remote from the holes of the fixing device (30) and the collection pouch (42), the protective sheet being practically entirely at only one side of the pivot axis.

3. (original) Connection according to claim 2, characterised in that the complementary fixing elements comprise at least two push-buttons (38, 52) which are aligned along an axis.

4. (original) Connection according to claim 2, characterised in that the complementary fixing elements comprise two elements (54, 56) which are fixedly joined to the fixing device (30) and the pouch (42), respectively, and which are able to provide mutual fixing by means of magnetic attraction.

5. (original) Connection according to claim 2, characterised in that the complementary fixing elements comprise a tongue (20) which is fixedly joined to a first portion of the connection and a curved member (18) which is fixedly joined to the other portion of the connection.

6. (original) Connection according to claim 2, characterised in that the complementary fixing elements comprise shaped portions (62, 64, 66, 70, 76, 78) of hook and loop type fabric which are fixedly joined to each of the connection portions (34, 46).

7. (currently amended) Connection according to ~~any one of claims 2 to 6~~ claim 5, characterised in that the complementary fixing elements comprise at least a first element (18) which is arranged on a first connection portion, and a plurality of second elements (20) which are arranged on the other connection portion and which have positions which are angularly spaced-apart around the hole of the corresponding connection portion, the first element being able to co-operate with any one of the second elements.

8. (currently amended) Connection according to ~~claims 5 and 7, taken in combination~~ claim 7, characterised in that the portion which comprises the portion carrying the tongue (20) comprises a plurality of tongues having positions which are angularly spaced-apart around the hole thereof.

9. (currently amended) Connection according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, characterised in that the protective sheet (72) of the adhesive layer comprises at least two portions which are folded in the form of a folder whose folds are adjacent on the adhesive surface so that this adhesive surface is completely covered and the flap which is not adhesively-bonded to the adhesive surface has a gripping lug (74, 106) which extends beyond the limits of the adhesive surface.

10. (currently amended) Connection according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, characterised in that the

portion having the adhesive surface is intended to be detached in one direction (T) after use, and the configuration of this adhesive surface is such that the total length of the face for detaching by means of peeling, in a direction which is generally perpendicular relative to the detaching direction, is modulated so that it is substantially constant over the majority of the length of the portion having the adhesive surface in the detaching direction.

11. (new) Connection according to claim 2, characterised in that the complementary fixing elements comprise at least a first element (18) which is arranged on a first connection portion, and a plurality of second elements (20) which are arranged on the other connection portion and which have positions which are angularly spaced-apart around the hole of the corresponding connection portion, the first element being able to co-operate with any one of the second elements.

12. (new) Connection according to claim 3, characterised in that the complementary fixing elements comprise at least a first element (18) which is arranged on a first connection portion, and a plurality of second elements (20) which are arranged on the other connection portion and which have positions which are angularly spaced-apart around the hole of the corresponding connection portion, the first element being able to co-operate with any one of the second elements.

13. (new) Connection according to claim 4, characterised in that the complementary fixing elements comprise at least a first element (18) which is arranged on a first connection portion, and a plurality of second elements (20) which are arranged on the other connection portion and which have positions which are angularly spaced-apart around the hole of

the corresponding connection portion, the first element being able to co-operate with any one of the second elements.

14. (new) Connection according to claim 6, characterised in that the complementary fixing elements comprise at least a first element (18) which is arranged on a first connection portion, and a plurality of second elements (20) which are arranged on the other connection portion and which have positions which are angularly spaced-apart around the hole of the corresponding connection portion, the first element being able to co-operate with any one of the second elements.